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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF MISSISSIPPI ABERDEEN DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA upon the relation and for the use of the TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY,

Plaintiff.

v.

No. 1:20-CV-052-GHD-DAS

AN EASEMENT AND RIGHT-OF-WAY OVER 6.66 ACRES OF LAND, MORE OR LESS, IN OKTIBBEHA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI, and EBENEZER FARMS, LLC, a Mississippi limited liability company,

Defendants.

ORDER CLARIFYING DISBURSAL OF ACCRUED INTEREST

On November 13, 2020, Plaintiff United States of America on behalf of the Tennessee Valley Authority, and Defendant ("TVA") and the Defendant Ebenezer Farms, LLC, informed the Court of the settlement of this condemnation action. The parties jointly moved for the entry of an agreed judgment and order disbursing funds, and the Court entered Judgment on December 2, 2020 [15]. That Judgment directed the disbursal of \$215,000.00 in compensation to the Defendant Ebenezer Farms, LLC. This Order directs and clarifies that any accrued interest on the funds that were deposited with the Court shall be disbursed to the Plaintiff, United States of America, upon the relation and for the use of the Tennessee Valley Authority.

40 U.S.C. § 3114 provides that "[i]n a condemnation action initiated by a declaration of taking, the judgment will include interest, in accordance with 40 U.S.C.A. § 3116, on the amount finally awarded as the value of the property as of the date of taking and will be awarded from that date to the date of payment, but interest shall not be allowed on as much of the compensation as has been paid into the court." 40 U.S.C. 3114(c)(1). This provision has been interpreted to mean interest "is awarded only upon the excess of any amount finally awarded as just compensation over

the amount deposited by the government as its estimate of the just compensation for the land taken." 7 FED. PROC., L. ED. § 14:164; see, e.g., U.S. v. Certain Property In Borough of Manhattan, City, County and State of New York, 266 F. Supp. 764 (S.D.N.Y. 1967); U.S. v. 176.2 Acres of Land, More or Less, in Bossier Parish, State of La., 212 F. Supp. 399 (W.D. La. 1962).

In the case *sub judice*, the parties agreed on the amount of just compensation for the property that was taken, and that amount has been deposited with the Court by the government and ordered by the Court to be disbursed to the Defendant [15]. Pursuant to the above-cited authority, any accrued interest on the deposited funds, therefore, shall be disbursed to the Plaintiff.

THEREFORE, it is hereby ORDERED that any and all accrued interest in this matter shall be DISBURSED to the Plaintiff, United States of America, upon the relation and for the use of the Tennessee Valley Authority.

SO ORDERED, on this the <u>17</u> day of December, 2020.

SENIOR U.S. DISTRICT JUDGE